

4. RTC 03-371 Outreach Task Force Recommendations in Response to RTC No. 02-455, "Explore Options to Improve Community Outreach"

Coryn Campbell, Neighborhood and Community Services Manager, presented the staff report. She stated this report is in response to Council's direction for a task force to review and, if needed, develop City-wide guidelines for noticing for private development, noticing for public projects, reports to Council postings, City Council and Board and Commission meetings, City sponsored community outreach meetings, public participation, special mailing lists, City Services and City events. Ms. Campbell highlighted some of the task force recommendations and stated that staff is recommending approval of all recommendations with the exception of 1.B.

Vice Mayor Risch opened the Public Hearing at 9:58 p.m.

Raymond Pole, a member of the public, stated the City needs to be more cognizant of how they notice meetings and how they word reports to Council to be clearer for the public.

In response to Councilmember Walker's inquiries, Marilyn Crane, Information Technology Manager, clarified that the Ebot system (email notification system) is a complimentary system and not a replacement for the existing mailing lists. Councilmember Walker expressed concern that residents are clear on how to sign up for mail notifications.

Michael Flores, candidate for Council, made suggestions for updating the City's web site.

Dean Chu, candidate for Council, encouraged the Council to accept staff recommendation alternative 1 that approves all the recommendations including 1.B. --"For all second-story additions, notice should be given three properties away (adjacent to adjacent to adjacent) on the same frontage road, and other owners and single-family and duplex tenants two properties away (adjacent to adjacent)."

Thom Mayer, a member of the public, spoke in support of extended notification and approval of item 1.B.

Vice Mayor Risch closed the Public Hearing at 10:20 p.m.

Councilmember Walker moved, and Councilmember Howe seconded, to direct implementation of all Outreach Task Force recommendations with the following modifications: that recommendation 1.B. be on a trial basis for one year for evaluation with staff to report back to Council as to whether it is cost effective and generating more public interest, that staff provide clear noticing of how to get on the subject matter lists, and to set reasonable limits on hard copy mail from the City. The motion carried unanimously.